

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ACDA-19 ISO-00 AGR-20 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00

COME-00 EB-11 EA-11 FRB-02 INR-10 IO-14 NEA-14

NSAE-00 RSC-01 OPIC-12 SP-03 TRSE-00 CIEP-02 LAB-06

SIL-01 SWF-02 OMB-01 SAJ-01 STR-08 SS-20 NSC-07 L-03

PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15 SAM-01 FEAE-00 DRC-01 /238 W

----- 088859

R 111732Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0763

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION NATO

USDEL MBFR VIENNA

USMISSION BERLIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 16953

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, GW, FR

SUBJECT: JULY 8-9 FRANCO-GERMAN SUMMIT

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REF: BONN 10941

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: FRENCH WERE PLEASED WITH FRANK AND FRIENDLY TONE OF BONN FRANCO-GERMAN SUMMIT. NO NEW SUBSTANTIVE GROUND SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN BROKEN. IN HIS RELATIONS WITH BONN, AS ELSEWHERE, GISCARD HAS NOT YET CLEARLY DEFINED THE NATURE OF THE SUBSTANTIVE CHANGES THAT HIS GOVERNMENT WILL BRING TO FRANCE'S FOREIGN POLICY. END SUMMARY.

2. QUAI ACTING DIRECTOR FOR CENTRAL EUROPE (OURMET) BRIEFED US JULY 10 ON FRANCO-GERMAN SUMMIT IN BONN JULY 8-9. MAJOR PRODUCT OF MEETINGS, AS SEEN BY FRENCH, WAS FRANK AND FRIENDLY TONE OF EXCHANGES AT ALL LEVELS, AND GENERAL FEELING THAT RELATIONS BETWEEN PARIS AND BONN ARE RETURNING TO THE MORE INTIMATE STYLE THAT CHARACTERIZED THE PRE-POMPIDOU/JOBERT PERIOD. MAIN SUBSTANTIVE POINTS RELAYED TO US PARALLEL REPORT IN REFTEL, WITH THESE ADDITIONS:

A. MBFR: WITHOUT CITING SPECIFICS, FRENCH THINK GERMAN REACTION TO THEIR NEGATIVE APPROACH TO MBFR - PARTICULARLY FRENCH SKEPTICISM REGARDING POLITICAL AND MILITARY ASPECTS ASSOCIATED WITH PHASE II - WAS WARMER THAN THEY HAD EXPECTED.

B. BERLIN: GERMANS TOLD FRENCH THAT THEY EXPECT TO BUILD UP FEDERAL ENVIRONMENT AGENCY OFFICE TO TOTAL STAFF OF 950, BUT THAT THIS IS LONG RANGE PLAN AND INITIAL STAFFING WOULD BE IN RANGE OF 250. AMBITIOUS FRG PLAN FOR THIS EXPANSION OVER LONGER TERM RAISED FRENCH EYEBROWS.

C. EC: IN ADDITION TO DISCUSSING WITH GERMANS SOME OF THE EUROPEAN CONSTRUCTION CONCEPTS WE DESCRIBED IN PARIS 16753, FRENCH PROMOTED IDEA THAT EC OPERATION IN BRUSSELS BE RENDERED MORE EFFICIENT BY REINFORCING ROLE AND AUTHORITY OF EC PERMREPS SO THAT THEY CAN RESOLVE MORE OF THE SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES CONFRONTING THE EC. THIS WOULD REVERSE THE CURRENT TENDENCY -- AS SEEN FROM PARIS -- OF LEAVING TOO MANY PROBLEMS TO BE RESOLVED ONLY AT MINISTERIAL LEVEL.

D. FRANCO-GERMAN COOPERATION: OUR SOURCE UNDERLINED FRENCH RELUCTANCE TO DEPICT FRANCO-GERMAN ROLE AS THAT OF CONFIDENTIAL

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"CO-LEADERS" OF EUROPE. HE EMPHASIZED THE "PARALLEL" BUT SEPARATE NATURE OF THEIR EFFORTS, IN THINGS ECONOMIC AS WELL AS POLITICAL.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 PARIS 16953

E. PLUTON: WHILE LOCAL PRESS HAS SPECULATED THAT
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PLUTON TAC NUKE MISSILE WOULD BE SUBJECT OF DISCUSSION IN BONN, OURMET SAID THAT AS FAR AS HE KNEW THERE HAD BEEN NO DISCUSSION OF PLUTON. (WE WILL FOLLOW UP AS APPROPRIATE WITH OUR MOD SOURCES ON THIS AND OTHER SECURITY RELATED SUBJECTS THAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN REVIEWED AT THIS SUMMIT.)

F. BILATERAL RELATIONS: OURMET SAID THERE WERE NO BILATERAL FRENCH-GERMAN PROBLEMS MERITING SPECIAL ATTENTION.

3. COMMENT: FRENCH WERE PLEASED WITH TONE OF THIS SUMMIT. THEY DID NOT GO TO BONN WITH ANTICIPATION OF OFFERING OR RECEIVING SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN THE SUBSTANTIVE POLICIES OF EITHER GOVERNMENTS. IN FACT, GISCARD CONTINUES TO MOVE SLOWLY AND VERY DELIBERATELY IN AREAS OF "CHANGE," IN STEP WITH HIS THEME OF "CHANGE WITHOUT RISK." HE HAS NOT YET DEFINED THE PRECISE SUBSTANTIVE CONTENT OF HIS FOREIGN POLICY IN GENERAL AND HIS EUROPEAN POLICY IN PARTICULAR. THIS COMES THROUGH QUITE CLEARLY, FOR EXAMPLE, IN THE VAGUE AND PROVISORY WAY HE AND HIS GOVERNMENT APPROACH THE DEFINITION OF FRANCE'S "INITIATIVE" FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF EUROPE. BASED ON RECORD OF THIS SUMMIT, HOWEVER, WE EXPECT THAT GISCARD WILL STRIVE TO DEEPEN THE NEW TONE OF FRANCO-GERMAN HARMONY, BOTH BECAUSE OF THE ECONOMIC PROBLEMS WHICH PRESS ON THE FRENCH AND WHICH REQUIRE GERMAN HELP IF THEY ARE TO BE SOLVED, AND BECAUSE OF GISCARD'S REALIZATION THAT THE CONSTRUCTION OF EUROPE MUST REST ON THE CLOSEST POSSIBLE HARMONY BETWEEN PARIS AND BONN.
IRWIN

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